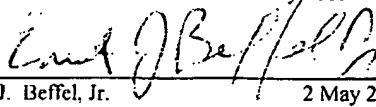


**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner Cong-Lac Huynh, Art Unit 2176, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-746-9548 on 2 May 2003.

  
Ernest J. Beffel, Jr.

2 May 2003

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Attorney Docket No. CMRC 1004-1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	Group Art Unit: 2176
Bart Alan MELTZER et al.	)	
	)	
Application No. 09/173,858	)	Examiner: Cong-Lac Huynh
	)	
Filed: 16 October 1998	)	
	)	
For: Documents for Commerce in Trading	)	
Partner Networks and Interface	)	
Definitions Based on the Documents	)	
	)	

**REPORT OF INTERVIEW AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO RCE**

Examiner Huynh  
Art Unit 2176  
Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Madam:

Following up on the RCE submitted 27 January 2003 and Responsive to an Advisory Action mailed 13 February 2003 related to a pre-RCE Final Official Action mailed 26 August 2002, an interview is reported, an amendment is made, and consideration of the following remarks is requested.

**REPORT OF INTERVIEW**

Applicants thank the Examiner and Mr. Jack Harvey for arranging an interview with the office's section 101 resource person. On 1 May 2003, Mr. Harvey spoke with the undersigned

**Application No. 09/173,858**

about the pending claims and data structures as patentable subject matter. The relationship of the claimed data structure in memory to XML and electronic commerce in general was discussed. Mr. Harvey indicated that he had looked at a patent that issued from a related application. Discussion was had regarding the role of input and output definition documents in electronic commerce exchanges between dissimilar system, for instance a mainframe system of a large manufacturer. How an input and output document definitions are used by application programs to define the physical relationship of information within a memory was discussed, using a purchase order was used as an example. The significance of the claim words in the art of XML programming was discussed.

On 2 May 2003, the Examiner called to follow up on the conversation with Mr. Harvey, and suggested an amendment to claim 1, which is made below. The assistance of the Examiner and Mr. Harvey in putting this case in condition for allowance is greatly appreciated.